

Fahd plan 'alternative to Camp David'

BAHRAIN (R) — Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali Sunday called Saudi Arabia's Middle East peace plan an alternative to the utter failure of the U.S.-sponsored Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt. Arriving in Riyadh for talks with Saudi leaders, he said that "the Arab peace plan put forth by the kingdom gives the world an alternative to Camp David, which has been an utter failure," according to the Saudi Press Agency. Mr. Mzali hoped Arab leaders would agree on the eight-point Saudi plan, launched by Crown Prince Fahd last August, at their next summit conference, the agency said. Mr. Mzali, who arrived in Jeddah Saturday night, was met on arrival at Riyadh airport by Prince Fahd. He told the agency he would sign an economic agreement with Saudi Arabia.

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Hassan inspects Pakistani shipyard

KARACHI (Peta) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, currently on a visit to Pakistan, Sunday called at Karachi's shipyard and engineering workshops and inspected their various sections and production units.

Prince Hassan met with officials at the workshops and explored with them the possibility of using Jordanian raw materials in the construction of ships.

Saleh ends tour

DOHA (R) — North Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh left for home Sunday after a tour of seven Arab countries during which he conferred on the Middle East situation and held talks on increasing aid to his country. The trip took him to Oman, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Jordan, Iraq, and Qatar. He had also been widely expected to fly to Saudi Arabia Sunday. There was no explanation for the change in his schedule.

Israeli planes fly over Zahran

BEIRUT (A.P.) — The Palestinian news agency WAFA said Sunday Israeli planes and helicopters flew low over the southern Lebanese oil-refinery city of Zahran, drawing fire from joint leftist and Palestinian forces. WAFA did not specify the number of the planes. This is the first time the agency has reported such an Israeli flight over Zahran since the July 24, 1981 ceasefire between Palestinian and Israeli forces. Zahran is 10 kilometres south of the southern provincial capital of Sidon.

Israel bomb defused

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — A bomb disposal unit exploded a bomb found on a bus inside a garage near Tel Aviv Sunday, police said. A janitor discovered the device hidden inside a loaf of bread on the vehicle inside a bus company garage in Holon, a Tel Aviv suburb, police said. There were no damages or injuries.

Saudis, Greeks improve relations

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia and Greece have agreed to conclude an economic and technical cooperation agreement, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said Sunday. He made the statement on the departure of the Greek foreign minister, Ioannis Charalambopoulos, after a four-day visit to Saudi Arabia, the Saudi Press Agency said. Prince Saud said he had useful talks with the Greek minister on issues of mutual interest and praised Greece's "noble" stand in support of right and justice, especially the Palestinian cause, according to the agency. Mr. Charalambopoulos met King Khaled before leaving Saudi Arabia.

3 Iranians killed

LONDON (R) — A Muslim cleric was shot dead by two men in central Tehran Saturday, a Tehran newspaper reported Sunday. The evening newspaper Kayhan said Hojatoleslam Mustafa Hojjati, a member of one of Tehran's security committees and of the militant Ulema society, was killed by two men who opened fire from a car and escaped. Tehran Radio, monitored in London, reported Sunday that two leftists were killed in a two-hour gunbattle in the capital last Thursday.

Nicaragua accused of aiding guerrillas

WASHINGTON (R) — Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey charged Sunday El Salvador's guerrilla war is being run from Nicaragua with the help of Cuba, Vietnam, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and others. The leftist insurgents battling the U.S.-backed junta in El Salvador were being organised entirely from the Nicaraguan capital Managua, he said. Mr. Casey said the CIA had evidence the guerrillas would be unable to keep up the struggle without what he said was a significant supply of equipment from Cuba but gave no details.

Qasem warns Europeans against backing Israeli concepts of security

Italy renews support for 'moderate' Mideast views

By Suzanne Zimmet-Black
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Italy Sunday reaffirmed its continued interest in a solution for the Middle East problem and support for all "moderate" stands in the area.

In a message delivered by the Italian Ambassador to Jordan Marquis Fabrizio Rossi Longhi to Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo expressed his country's appreciation of "continued efforts by Jordan to keep moderate stands alive."

The message referred to a communiqué handed out by the ministers of the 10 European Economic Community (EEC) countries on Feb. 23 in Brussels, after exchanging views on the European community, of these concepts.

He pointed out that the emphasis laid by some European quarters on Israel's security might be understood and explained by Israel as condoning and justifying its aggressive acts and expansion at the expense of Arab land and rights.

Mr. Qasem asked the Italian ambassador to convey his thanks to Mr. Colombo for his efforts, and stressed the need for the 10

EEC countries to use their influence, and practise their international responsibilities, to bring about a just peace in the area in accordance with resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations and the world community. These resolutions, Mr. Qasem said, demand complete Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, the return of Arab Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty, the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in Palestine.

Mr. Qasem explained to the ambassador the dangers inherent in Israeli security concepts and emphasised the importance of understanding, on the part of the European community, of these concepts.

He pointed out that the emphasis laid by some European quarters on Israel's security might be understood and explained by Israel as condoning and justifying its aggressive acts and expansion at the expense of Arab land and rights.

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Drama of Tanzanian plane ends peacefully

LONDON (R) — Hijackers of a Tanzanian airliner which had been forced to land at an airport near London surrendered to British authorities Sunday after releasing about 90 hostages, police said.

A police spokesman said the hostages were "safe and well with no injuries and no casualties."

The end of the two-day hostage drama came swiftly after Tanzanian opposition politician Oscar Kambona, a former foreign minister exiled in Britain, took a hand in the negotiations at Stansted Airport northeast of London.

The hijackers had demanded the overthrow of Tanzania's socialist President Julius Nyerere.

The four hijackers reported to have been armed with sub-machine guns, grenades and pistols, were taken into police custody.

Airport sources said explosives were found wired to the aircraft doors and planted in a toilet.

The Boeing 737 was seized on an internal flight in Tanzania on Friday and was forced down Saturday at Stansted after previous stops in Nairobi, Jeddah and Athens.

Most of the weapons turned out to be fakes. Mr. Bunyard said they had a real revolver with six bullets, two wooden pistols, two wooden grenades and a package marked "explosives."

"We don't know what is in the parcel yet," the police chief said.

The police chief told the news conference that the authorities made no concessions.

Mr. Bunyard said the hijackers, when they first arrived at Stansted, had dem-

anded to see Mr. Kambona, once regarded as heir apparent to President Nyerere before he clashed with the Tanzanian leader and fled to London in 1967.

Essex police chief Robert Bunyard said Mr. Kambona played an important role in ending the hijack.

"He became someone they very much wanted to meet," Mr. Bunyard said.

However Mr. Kambona made clear to the hijackers that he disapproved of their action, he added.

Mr. Bunyard said the hijackers, in their early 20s, had families on board the plane.

But he could give no details. "We're still trying to sort everybody out," he said.

The hijack ended about 1700 GMT when two young children from among the hostages brought the hijackers' weapons off the plane.

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European MPs start visit

RAMTHA (Petra) — A delegation representing the Socialist group in the European Parliament arrived here Sunday for a three-day visit to Jordan.

The delegation, arriving from Syria by road, are on a fact-finding tour of the region. Members of the delegation will be meeting with Jordanian Thomas O'Sullivan, and other officials.

acquainting themselves with the Middle East question.

The delegation was met upon arrival at this border post by a number of Upper House of Parliament members, Ramtha District governor, European Economic Community delegates in Jordan.

Mr. Stevenson will also visit several educational institutes in the country to get acquainted with the educational system adopted and the techniques used. She will also visit historic and tourist sites in the country.

Dr. Stevenson was met at Amman airport by Education Secretary General Thihani Ra'fat and several high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Education.

Ontario minister arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Ontario Minister of Education Petty Stevenson arrived here Sunday evening for a six-day visit to Jordan during which she will have talks with Education Minister Sa'id Tal on ways of strengthening educational and cultural cooperation between Jordan and the Canadian province.

Dr. Stevenson will also visit several educational institutes in the country to get acquainted with the educational system adopted and the techniques used. She will also visit historic and tourist sites in the country.

Dr. Stevenson was met at Amman airport by Education Secretary General Thihani Ra'fat and several high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Education.

Iraq wants war to end

BEIRUT (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Sunday Baghdad did not want the Gulf war with Iran to last much longer, the Iraqi News Agency INA said.

"If the Persian enemy (Iran) wants this war to be long, we do not and do not," the agency quoted President Hussein as saying in a speech coincided with renewed efforts by the United Nations and the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to end the conflict, now in its 18th month.

Arab committee on Lebanon postpones planned meeting

BEIRUT (R) — Arab ministers working to end years of factional fighting in Lebanon have postponed a meeting planned for Monday, official sources said Sunday.

They said members of the Arab League Follow-up Committee on Lebanon had decided to put off the meeting "until circumstances permit positive action towards carrying out the resolutions of previous meetings."

Committee plans to stop illegal arms imports into Lebanon by sea and redeploy troops in Beirut have not been put into effect.

The committee, which has representatives from Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the

Arab League, last met in November.

Monday's meeting has already been postponed once. It was originally scheduled for mid-January.

The meeting was to have been at the Baabda Presidential Palace outside Beirut. No new date has been set, the sources said.

The committee, at foreign minister level, has met six times since June last year, when it helped end 10 weeks of heavy fighting in Beirut and around the eastern town of Zahlé.

Its plan to keep out illegal arms calls for a watchdog commission to patrol the Lebanese coast.

Islamic goodwill mission on Gulf war meets Friday

BAHRAIN (R) — Islamic mediators will meet in Jeddah on Friday to renew efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war, the Saudi Press Agency said Sunday.

A nine-man committee set up in January last year by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), will consider a new strategy for ending the 17-month-old war, the agency said without giving further details.

Habib Chatti, secretary-general of the 40-nation OIC, said earlier this month the committee would draw up details of a proposed settlement under which a ceasefire would be proclaimed and Iraqi forces withdrawn from Iranian territory.

Observers and Islamic forces would then be stationed on the frontier between the two countries pending completion of peace negotiations based on a plan to be submitted to both parties by the Jeddah-based OIC, Mr. Chatti said.

Habib arrives in Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — U.S. special envoy Philip Habib arrived from Beirut Sunday for talks with Israeli leaders on ways to stabilise the shaky ceasefire on the Lebanese border.

The special envoy's mission also appears to be drawing a cool response from Syria.

Damascus Radio on Saturday commented pessimistically on Mr. Habib's visit to the Middle East and renewed accusations that the United States had been connected with a violent uprising this month in the central Syrian city of Hama.

Mr. Hawatmeh, who has not always seen eye to eye with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said the PLO's acceptance of the South Lebanon ceasefire was "a wise decision."

"It has given us a chance to develop our capabilities in a tangible way... to inflict heavy losses on the enemy and make his mission extremely difficult," he said in an interview published in Beirut.

He said Israel "would pay a dear price" for any military operation against commando positions in South Lebanon.

Financial 'scandals' rock Bonn coalition

BONN (R) — Two reported financial scandals involving senior cabinet ministers, big business and the trade unions, have shaken the West German political establishment and added to the troubles of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's precarious coalition government.

The Bonn public prosecutor said on Friday that Economics Minister Otto Lambsdorff and Finance Minister Hans Mattheuer were among nine politicians and businessmen under investigation over tax write-offs to party political contributions.

Those involved, including Mr. Schmidt's closest chancellor aide Manfred Lahnstein, a senior banker and top executives of the private Flick holding concern, have denied any wrongdoing.

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NATIONAL

Education endowment picks up steam

By Dina Matar
Special to the Jordan Times

THE ROYAL ENDOWMENT for Culture and Education, set up two years ago, is picking up steam, and its programme of action is well underway.

Initiated by Her Majesty Queen Noor, the endowment makes use of Jordan's most valuable asset — its human resources. By providing scholarships to outstanding and highly qualified Jordanians, the endowment tries to satisfy Jordan's pressing need for skilled manpower, especially in hotel management, the arts, theatre, mass communications, econometrics and regional planning.

In 1981 alone the endowment spent some \$61,000 on scholarships, eight Jordanians, two of them women, are now pursuing their education abroad. In a meeting of the endowment's board of trustees last week, the endowment decided to provide eight more scholarships during 1982.

According to Mrs. Laila Sharaf, one of the board members, education has become essential in Jordan in view of its rapid development schemes. She told the Jordan Times that while there has been an obvious glut in certain specialisations like medicine and engineering, "Jordan has rep-

eatedly suffered from a lack of skilled manpower to satisfy its growing needs." The endowment's efforts are deliberately directed at enhancing the educational system to produce skilled men and women for the future, Mrs. Sharaf said.

Executive Director Amal Sabbagh said that the endowment, in a way, tries to concentrate on those fields which suffer from shortage in the country and attempts to find students who are not only qualified but self-motivated as well.

In a bid to find out of priorities of the Jordanian society, the endowment is in the process of carrying out a detailed study covering the entire country. Miss Sabbagh, who has already prepared a working paper on the proposed study explained that the study would pinpoint those areas where Jordan mostly needs the qualified know-how of its citizens.

Although education is revered in the growing Jordanian society, it has suffered from major deficiencies. Thousands of Jordanians have enrolled in traditional courses of study, but some specialised courses have not been emphasised. Mrs. Sharaf pointed out that this phenomenon has left an adverse impact of Jordan's projects. "Since we have had to import foreign know-how and expertise."

The number of women graduates in the rural areas, on the other hand, is still small, and some provincial areas have been seriously short of university graduates.

"The endowment does not only provide scholarships and financial assistance to Jordanians, but it also tries to offer some counselling to the students," Mrs. Sharaf said.

"Students at all school levels — elementary, preparatory or secondary — have long lacked counselling and orientation," she added. Most are "egged on by dreams nurtured by their parents, who obviously want them to become doctors or engineers."

Deficiencies in the educational system in Jordan also have aggravated the situation. In view of the lack of counselling services and orientation programmes at schools, many students graduate "with no sense of direction."

In spite of a small change in attitudes, many schools still do not help students "find themselves," Mrs. Sharaf said.

In its efforts to tackle these problems, the endowment has also faced some problems.

Depending mainly on contributions, the endowment sometimes finds itself short of funds to send even more students abroad. At present, the endowment raises its funds from membership fees, contributions, revenues from spe-



Laila Sharaf

cial fund-raising events and other means determined by its board of trustees.

Miss Sabbagh said that another problem that has deterred her work for a long time is the lack of information in the country. "What we really need is a bank of information where we will be able to identify those fields which lack skilled professionals," she said.

Now, the endowment has shouldered the responsibility and has initiated a study of the sort to pinpoint priorities in Jordan.

As executive director, Miss Sabbagh also has various problems coping with the thousands of applications pouring in every year. She said the endowment is selective in the sense that it does

not send just anyone who applies for the scholarships. "Our students have to be self-motivated, hard-working and willing to come back and work in the country," Miss Sabbagh explained. Many thousands of applications are turned down every year, and out of the thousands that apply only a handful are really qualified to get the scholarship, she said.

The students, for their part, have to sign a contract according to which they have to come back and serve in the country in their chosen field of specialisation. "The first batch of our students are still abroad, so until now we have no definite results to assess this experiment," Miss Sabbagh said.

But after a little more than 18 months, the endowment seems to be doing quite well. "We do not want to start with big dreams and no achievement. What we are doing is a step-by-step process, and we are sure that our efforts will reap good results," Mrs. Sharaf said.

According to its charter, the endowment is an independent non-political, secular institute, providing service to all Jordanians on an equal footing. It is registered as a charitable society at the Ministry of Social Development, and membership, conferred upon acceptance by the board of trustees, requires an annual fee of JD 100.

JD 42,500 donated to Yarmouk Force

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan News Agency, Petra, published Sunday a list of names of citizens and organisations who made contributions to the Yarmouk Force. The president and members of the National Consultative Council (NCC) contributed JD 22,233, which is the second instalment of the NCC's contributions to the Yarmouk Force. The total contributions, according to Petra, amounted to some JD 42,500.

JTV starts UHF testing

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Television announced Sunday it has started experimental ultra high frequency (UHF) test transmissions for the Jordan Valley region.

According to JTV Engineering Director Radi Alkhas, viewers in Deir Alla can receive the Arabic and foreign programmes on channels 26 and 29 respectively; in North Shuneh on 63 and 66; and in South Shuneh on channel 43.

Most areas in the Jordan Valley can now receive JTV transmission with indoor antennas, Mr. Alkhas said.

Butros back from U.N. meeting on technology

AMMAN (Petra) — Royal Scientific Society (RSS) President Albert Butros returned home on Sunday after participating in a three-day meeting of the ministerial committee of the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology held in Tunis last week.

Dr. Butros said the participants discussed the financing of the fund to enable it to perform its tasks in strengthening the national infrastructures of the developing countries in science and technology.

He said a final formula for proposed arrangements regarding an international system for financing science and technology was approved.

These arrangements will be discussed with representatives of the industrialised countries at a meeting which will be held in early April to allocate additional sums for the fund, he added.

The target is \$100 million this year and \$1 billion in 1986.

Representatives of 14 countries — Tunisia, Guinea, India, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Jordan — attended the meeting.

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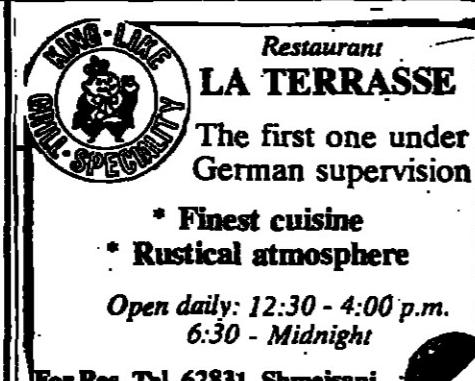
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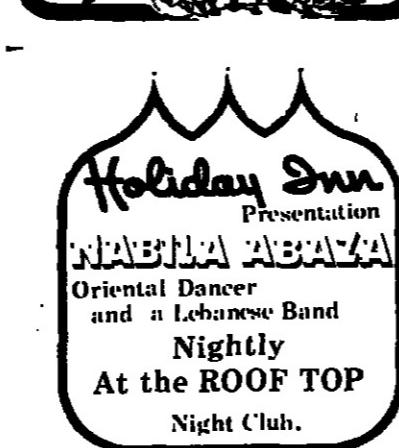
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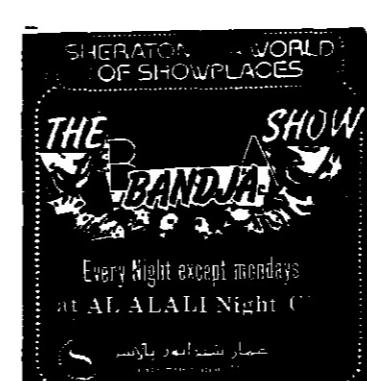


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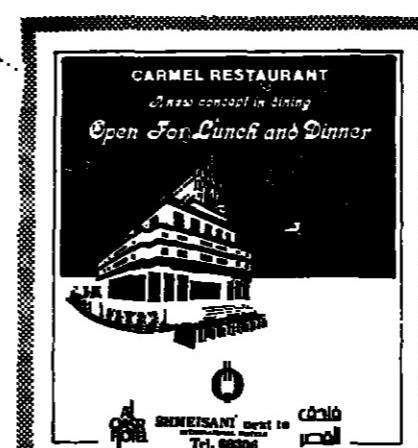


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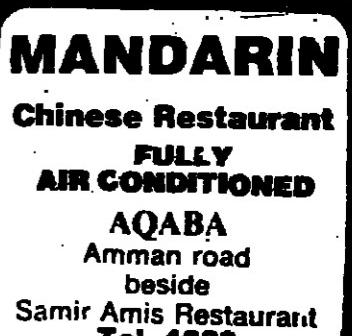


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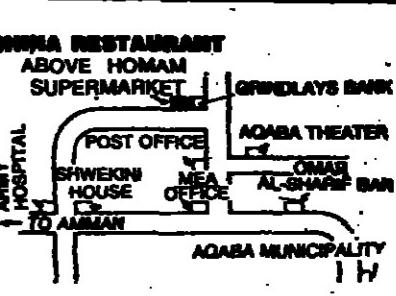
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NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Arab Air Cargo board holds first meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Air Cargo company's board of directors held its first meeting Sunday at headquarter of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline. Among other things, the board will discuss the appointment of a company director and the company's bylaws, as well as drawing up the company's future programmes. The JD 20 million company, a joint Jordanian-Iraqi venture, was established in August, 1981. Its fleet will initially include Boeing 707 aircraft, but later Boeing 747's will be added. The company's routes will extend through the Middle East to Europe, the Far East, Africa and North and South America. The directors general of the Iraqi and Jordanian national airlines attended Sunday's meetings.

Iraqi painter exhibits here

AMMAN (Petra) — An exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist Muhib Al Sarraf was opened on Sunday at the Iraqi embassy's press office in Amman. Iraqi Ambassador Ibrahim Shuja' opened the exhibition which includes several paintings portraying Iraq's war against Iran, bedouin life, and the landmarks of Baghdad and the Shatt Al Arab.

Jordan to exhibit at Baghdad fair

AMMAN (Petra) — Building materials manufacturers in Jordan will participate in an international building materials fair which will open on April 17 in Baghdad. At a meeting held Sunday at the Amman Chamber of Industry, it was decided to set up a committee to follow up preparations for participation in the two-week fair. The committee, to be chaired by the chamber's director, Mr. Ali Dajani, is to meet on March 8 to discuss details of the Jordanian pavilion at the fair.

Yarmouk model school children exhibit art

IRBID (Petra) — Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran opened here Sunday an exhibition of drawings and photographs by students of the university's model school. On display for several days also are handicrafts by the school children. Meanwhile, the director of the university's continuing educational and community service department, Mr. Khaled Al Omari, opened Sunday a secretarial training course in Jerash. Taking part in the three-month course are 22 men and women participants from Jerash District.

Tal, Qatars discuss education exchange

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting Qatari delegation called on Education Minister Sa'id Al Tal Sunday to discuss ways of promoting Jordanian-Qatari cooperation in education. Dr. Tal said that the exchange of educational expertise among the Arab countries is bound to contribute tremendously toward the achievement of

unified curricula in the Arab World. The delegation members were also received by the ministry's secretary general, Mr. Thihni Ra'fat, with whom they discussed the implementation of a Jordanian-Qatari educational exchange programme.

Team to Islamic cities meeting named

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Sunday formed Jordan's delegation to a conference of Islamic capital cities which will open in Islamabad on April 18. Amman Municipal Council Vice Chairman Mohammad Nouri Shafiq will lead the delegation to the two-day conference.

Fruit, vegetable import banned

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture Sunday issued its export-import plan for March. It includes directives on the import and export of vegetables and fruits for the next month. The plan banned the import of tomatoes, aubergines, potatoes, cucumbers, marrow, cauliflower, cabbage, broad beans, citrus fruits, grapes, melons, watermelons, pears, mango, cherries, pineapples, strawberries, coconut, bananas and avocados. It did not ban the export of any of these vegetables and fruit.

Trade licence deadline extended

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni on Sunday extended the deadline for renewing trade licences for 1982 until the end of March. The deadline had been set for the end of February. A spokesman said that those who fail to renew their licences by the end of March will be referred to court. A court ruling can impose a fine that reaches up to 20 per cent of the licence fee and/or order the closure of the establishment for undetermined periods.

Trade centres discussed

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Trade Centres Corporation board held a meeting here Sunday to discuss issues connected with Jordan's trade centres in Baghdad and Khartoum. The board, meeting under the chairmanship of Industry and Trade Under Secretary Mohammad Saleh Al Hourani, discussed the JD 15 million quota of the Baghdad Centre. It also explored the possibility of involving trade centres in financing the ministry's trade fairs during the current year.

Garbage fee to be added to power bill

AMMAN (Petra) — The annual JD 6 fee charged by Amman Municipality for garbage collecting will now be added to each home's electricity bill, a municipality spokesman said Sunday. The spokesman appealed to those who have so far failed to pay their fees to settle the account through collectors employed by the Jordan Electricity Company (JEC).

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Local bank introduces 'charge cards'

Plastic money takes Jordan by storm

By Steve Ross
Special to the Jordan Times

PLASTIC MONEY is taking Jordan by storm. Nearly 1,000 Visa cards have been issued locally since the rolls were opened in mid-January, and the card's familiar blue-white-and-gold striped motif is appearing in shop windows all over Amman. Mr. Agha Ja'far of Petra Bank, the establishment responsible for Jordan's first locally-issued charge card, says: "We're getting app-

large number of supermarkets.

The merchants are located in various districts of the capital. Last week, Mr. Agha Ja'far said, the bank concentrated on Jabal Hussein and added more than 30 members to its merchant list. About 20 travel agents now take the Visa card, in addition to all offices of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, and the Amman Airport duty-free shop. Petra Bank will soon issue a brochure, Mr. Agha Ja'far said, to explain the advantages of the Visa card to "a wider public." Jordanians tend to be unaware of the convenience of such a service unless they already have one of the other major credit cards, Mr. Agha Ja'far said. Reaching the people who do not have cards yet is one of the bank's major objectives, he added.

Petra Bank's downtown headquarters is processing about 40 a day of the applications taken at the bank's 13 branches, and Mr. Agha Ja'far told the Jordan Times more than 200 merchants have signed up to offer the Visa service to their customers. The term "merchant" in this context is applied rather broadly: Mr. Agha Ja'far said 90 per cent of Amman's hotels and most of the more prestigious restaurants have signed up. This is in addition to "a fair amount" of retail stores, he said — such outlets as boutiques and a

chants around the world accept Visa cards — and cards issued in another country can now be used in Jordan, at any of the member merchants. The organisation now has 13,000 affiliated banks internationally.

Cards like the Visa are often known as credit cards; but Mr. Agha Ja'far explained that his bank's card could be more accurately described as a "debit card." Before one can get a card, one has to have an account with Petra Bank; then, as the bank receives vouchers from merchants for sales on the card, it debits the account accordingly.

The card has "many practical advantages," he said. One of the important ones is that, unlike other cards which can be used in Jordan, it is issued by a local bank. This means that monthly statements of a cardholder's account reach him or her quickly. If an account is settled within a week — bringing the cardholder's account back to full strength — there is no service charge. There is, however, an annual fee; and interest is charged if the account remains "in the

messman who wants to travel and entertain, he said.

To obtain a Visa or Petracard, one fills a form at any of Petra Bank's branches, giving such pertinent information as one's bank account number, profession, number of years with present employer and total monthly income. The application is then considered by the bank's management, who have the right to refuse to grant a card without stating the reason. Whether a certain applicant qualifies for an international card, Mr. Agha Ja'far said, depends on the management's judgement and on individual needs. The bankers must also make one more crucial decision — the credit limit.

The credit limit, which is determined according to the applicant's bank account size and general financial standing, is the maximum amount he can use his card for without settling his account. Merchants may, but are not required to, contact the bank to check on a cardholder's standing before accepting the card in payment.

With hundreds of merchants on its rolls, the bank has to be able to receive and process a large number of such queries each day. As the first bank in Jordan fully to computerise its operations, Petra Bank is well prepared to do so. One large room in the headquarters building is filled with glowing terminal screens and whirring computer banks. A team of operators equipped with keyboards and telephones is ready to receive merchants' calls and check cardholders' accounts. There is also a direct line to Visa International's London base.

Mr. Agha Ja'far, who is an expert in computer applications in banking, said Petra Bank had developed all its own computer software for the Visa system. Other banks, on joining Visa, had usually bought the programmes needed, he said; but Petra Bank had to devise its own system because of the unique local conditions.

Visa cards are also accepted widely elsewhere in the Middle East, Mr. Agha Ja'far said. Some countries, such as Lebanon, Turkey and Morocco, have limited programmes whereby merchants can join to accept cards issued in another country. Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Oman have somewhat more extensive programmes. Saudi Arabia is introducing the Visa card. But "Jordan's programme is unique in the Arab World," Mr. Agha Ja'far asserted.

Looking ahead

AMONG THE SERVICES Petra Bank hopes to introduce in the future are automatic tellers — at which a cardholder can withdraw money after banking hours by means of a magnetic identifying strip in his card — and the "preimum" card. This new category of card will allow a wider range of services — for example, cash advances from hotels — Mr. Agha Ja'far says. It is geared to the busi-

Nasser to talk on Birzeit closure

AMMAN (J.T.) — Birzeit University President Hanna Nasser will hold a press conference Monday to discuss the circumstances that led to the closure of the university for the second time in the first semester of this year.

The university was closed on Feb. 22 by the Israeli authorities for alleged mistreatment of the Israeli education officer in the occupied West Bank and expelling him from the campus.

The university was closed for the first time from Nov. 3, 1981 to Jan. 4, 1982.

It will be reopened on Apr. 21, 1982. Dr. Nasser will hold his press conference at the Birzeit University liaison office in Jabal Luwibdeh at noon.



Shubeilat elected engineers president

AMMAN (J.T.) — Laith Farhan Shubeilat has been elected president of the Jordan Engineers Association by a majority of 1324.

Dr. Rohi Al Sharif was elected vice president, while engineers elected as members of the council were Azzam Al Anani, who represents civil engineers; Jamal Al Shakhsir, who represents architects; Ghassan Abdul Majid for mechanical engineers; Omar Judeh for mining engineers; Fathi Hiyyas for chemical engineers and Rihbi Hamed for electrical engineers.

Former president Michael Massanat won 1139 votes.

Women training plans approved

AMMAN (Petra) — The higher guidance council for women and family affairs held a meeting on Sunday under Social Development Minister In'am Al Mutti.

The council discussed working papers by Mrs. Buthayne Jarash, the head of the department of women's affairs at the ministry, on national education and training of girls. It also discussed an experimental project involving rural women in the villages of Al Subhi and Umm Al Basatin, a training programme for housewives on repair and maintenance of appliances and a project for training women in densely-populated and low-income areas.

At the end of its meetings, the council adopted recommendations emphasising the need for continued training of women to enable them to perform their role in the national economy. It also recommended the approval of a voluntary training programme for girls on civil defence.

Young diplomats to plan spring activities

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Club of Young Diplomats meets here Monday evening to plan activities for the spring season.

A spokesman said all members are invited to the meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Ambassador Hotel in Shmeisani.

CORRECTION

In the article "New airport services give helping hand to visitors," which appeared in the Jordan Times of Sunday, Feb. 28, a typographical error did not make it clear that the Directorate of Civil Aviation gets no commission from the airport taxi service that it organises.

Petracard

Today's Weather

Due to the approach of a sandstorm, it will be dusty and partly cloudy to cloudy, with scattered thunder showers in the afternoon. In Aqaba, winds will be southerly moderate to fresh, with rough seas.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	9	18
Aqaba	14	22
Deserts	8	21
Jordan Valley	11	20

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 20, Aqaba 24. Humidity readings: Amman 38 per cent, Aqaba 38 per cent.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- * Multimedia exhibition of contemporary American art at the American Centre.
- * Our Cities: Past and present, a photographic exhibition at the Yarmouk University Hall in Irbid. Ends today.
- * 'Saddam's Qadisiyah embraces Hussein's Yarmouk.' Paintings by Iraqi artist Muhib Al Sarraf. Ends today.
- * Photographs and drawings of Yarmouk University model school and handicrafts, on display at the Yarmouk University.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Applications are invited for the post of secretary/ stenographer. English language is a must, Arabic is an asset. Interested applicants apply in person to:
 , Personnel Manager
 San Rock Hotel
 Umm Uthaima - Jabal Amman

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To give ...

GENEROSITY has always been a hallmark of American policy in the Middle East, and it traditionally reaches its height in the amount of military and economic assistance the United States provides to Israel every year. The 1983 foreign security aid bill that the Reagan administration sent to Congress earlier this week includes proposed assistance of \$2.485 billion to Israel -- the single biggest aid package from the United States to any other country. The scope and quality of American aid to Israel is a fact of life; it is, potentially, the will of the American people.

Impressed as we all should be by American generosity, nevertheless little bells keep ringing in the back of the mind, bells that try to point out the contradiction between the reliability of American aid to Israel and the unwillingness to date of the United States to take practical measures to link American responsibility for Israel's survival with American responsibility for Israel's aggressive and, by international legal standards, criminal acts in the region.

For all practical purposes, and based on recent history, Israel is America and America is Israel. That was one of the lessons the American government never learned in Iran, for example, where it maintained the convenient, psychologically soothing fiction of thinking that it could avoid sharing the responsibility that came with its all-out support for the regime of the late Shah. Well, the Shah is gone. So is Anwar Sadat. So are both their styles of leadership. What is left for those of us in the Arab World who value our dignity and the future of our children is to learn the lessons of the past and to apply what we learn to the policies of the present. America may be willing to risk repeating the Shah-Sadat experiences elsewhere in the region. The Arabs are not. The people and leaders of the Arab World have a sense of history and a sense of dignity that is worth very much... much, much more than \$2.485 billion. Generosity that is not accompanied, and humanized, by a sense of responsibility will be judged by history as little more than mercantilism.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

America's battle of interests

AL RA'I: The Israeli media were frantic in their commentaries about the possible visit which Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will make to Israel. The Israeli radio broadcast a statement by Menachem Begin on Saturday saying that the visit will not take place unless President Hosni Mubarak accepts to stay in Jerusalem during the visit. Six hours later Israeli Television telecast a statement attributed to Israel's ambassador in Cairo denying that Menachem Begin made such a statement.

It is clear that the Israeli authorities wish to exploit the visit to extract an implicit Egyptian recognition of Arab Jerusalem as part of the Israeli capital. Egypt has rejected this by declaring many times that Arab Jerusalem is part of the occupied West Bank. It also seems that the Jerusalem issue was what foiled Shamir's attempts to fix a final date for the Egyptian president's visit. This is why Begin made his statement which was later denied by the Israeli television.

It appears that some other Israeli officials felt that such a statement would give President Mubarak an excuse to cancel the visit and that this would speed up Egypt's return to the Arab fold. This is particularly what Israel wants to prevent at all costs.

The Egyptian president's refusal to submit to Israeli pressure is worthy of notice because it might be the first step towards Egypt's return to the Arab fold.

A frantic coverage

AL DUSTOUR: A U.S. State Department spokesman issued a statement on Saturday warning that the United States will not close its eyes to an Israeli military operation in southern Lebanon and that it does not approve of the stockpiling of weapons in that region. This statement can be considered as part of the battle that has been raging in Washington since U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger visited the region and made his statement on the possibility of selling U.S. weapons to Jordan.

The Israeli campaign against what can be described as an act of rapprochement towards the Arabs by the United States has taken a number of directions. Israel's supporters at the U.S. Congress moved to stop the United States from selling arms to Jordan while the Israeli officials launched a concentrated campaign against Jordan threatening to undermine the situation in the region by launching a number of protective attacks to prevent the Arabs from building their military strength. Israel has also directly addressed the U.S. public opinion in an attempt to convince Americans that U.S. weapons in Jordan are like the arms bought by Palestinians in southern Lebanon and in the threat they pose to Israel's security.

Jordan's Ambassador to the United States Abdul Hadi Al Majali replied to the Israeli campaign by saying that Jordan will never relinquish its right and duty to obtain defensive weapons. If the Israeli influence in Washington were to prevent Jordan from buying these defensive systems from the United States, then Jordan would seek them from other sources.

DE FACTONOMICS

The government's role as the largest employer

By T.A. Jaber

The Jordan Government issues annually two significant and interrelated documents which outline its fiscal and employment policies. These are the budget law and the government civil service cadre.

I have commented in the past on the importance of the budget documents and now the time may be ripe to discuss the latter document since it was issued recently.

We know from the employment data that the government is the largest employer in the country. Forty-five per cent of the labour force are employed in the public sector. Any change in the employment conditions in this sector will affect about 200,000 employees or about one million persons.

Parallel to the 1982 budget, the government intends to expand its staff by 4385 employees which will bring the total number of jobs in

the civil service to 70733. This total amounts to twice the labour force in all of our industrial establishments including the small ones.

About 55 percent of the civil servants are employed by the Ministry of Education, with the rest distributed among the other 94 ministries, departments and agencies.

The rate of increase of jobs in the government, 6.6 per cent, is actually quite modest compared with the expansion in the economy, particularly the private sector. If this policy were maintained for a couple of years to come, it would serve to achieve a number of desirable objectives.

The expansion of current expenditures of the government will be restricted to reasonable rates. Our labour market will not face increasing pressures and more workers will be directed to

the private sector. The domination of our economy by services can be gradually reduced.

There are important issues related to the government civil service, in addition to its size, annual increase and relative weight in the economy.

The first issue that can be pointed out is the ability of the government to attract and retain qualified staff despite low salaries they pay and the intensive competition from the private sector. It is noted that 59 per cent of the regular government staff are getting a basic salary of less than JD 66 monthly. Out of the total unclassified jobs of 19 thousand, 91 per cent are paid less than JD 67 monthly, while 60 per cent of the contracted employees are paid less than JD 67 monthly. Of course, there are other technical and personal allowances, but still the basic salary scale has to be improved considerably. The opportunity of revising the scale is quite timely with the current work on the amendment of the civil service law.

What about disguised unemployment? In a tight labour market, disguised unemployment usually disappears. It is also extremely difficult to measure the productivity of workers in services such as education or health. However, it can be said that from direct observation, the efficiency of some employees tend to be low particularly those who are not in demand in the labour market. It is also possible that with changing habits, a good portion of the supporting staff, such as messengers, can be released to other types of work.

How does a government

employee see his job? Is it only doing what he is usually asked to do or to think also of taking the initiative and improve on the traditional procedures. This raises the issue of creativity among the civil service particularly those of administrative responsibilities. Creativity, however, is not always inherent. It could be instilled in the working habits of the employees with proper training and guidance.

Being the largest employer in the country, the government should reconsider from time to time its employment conditions. The performance of its civil service may be improved without necessarily continued expansion of vacancies, but with training and a built-in incentive system. Office habits can and should be changed towards greater efficiency and flexibility.

The Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) says that alarmism in the American media about the size of Arab investments in the United States is hurting their business.

Alarmism bad for business

On Sept. 22 and 23, the House Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer, and Monetary Affairs held hearings on "OPEC investments in the U.S." Despite denials by the subcommittee chairman, Congressman Benjamin Rosenthal (D-NY), ADC believes that the hearings were but a thinly-veiled effort by the Subcommittee to launch an anti-Arab campaign with surprising and disturbing implications for American-Arab small businessmen. The tone of the hearings, especially the remarks of Chairman Rosenthal, were disturbingly antagonistic toward Arabs. While criticism was ostensibly directed at OPEC, it is clear that the word "OPEC" was in fact intended to mean "Arab."

The two witnesses called to testify on the first day of the hearings presented sensationalistic and unsubstantiated "evidence" of massive Arab investment in the U.S. One of the witnesses, Mr. Christopher Story, is editor of International Currency Review, a publication widely understood to have direct links to Israel's international intelligence apparatus. The testimonies offered by both witnesses were alarmist and anti-Arab.

Newspapers did little to dispel the sensationalism and anti-Arab rhetoric that characterised the hearings. After the first day of the hearings, for example, The Washington Post ran the headline, "Arabs' Holdings in the U.S. Understated by Treasury, Probe Told." It is not until the sixth paragraph of the article that the reader learns that the allegations of "understatement" were based on an unsubstantiated account which the witness admitted he could not document.

ADC has long expressed concern that such anti-Arab alarmism might create an anti-Semitic hysteria which could seriously threaten the security of all Arab-Americans. Just as Hitler first began by attacking "international Jewish money" (a stance which later concentrated on German Jews as "agents of that international conspiracy"), the Subcommittee's sensationalist hearings fan the flames of anti-Arab sentiment in America.

Remarks made by Congressman Lyle Williams were particularly frightening. He suggested that a "conspiracy" may be in the offing in his district of Youngstown, Ohio. In that city, he noted that Arabs have recently purchased several "7-11" stores and he worried about whether or not these purchases might be "Arab investment in disguise." These "Arabs," of course, are Arab-Americans. Rash accusations such as those of Representative Williams can only serve to undermine the legitimate commercial activities of Arab-American businesses.

It is important to note that even if Arab investment were equal to the exaggerated amount suggested by witnesses of the hearings, it would add up to be a mere 1 percent of total investment in the U.S. - a figure which pales in significance when compared to British, Japanese and West German holdings. The Subcommittee was not interested, however, in revealing such sobering facts.

The hearings of the Rosenthal Committee were used to feed the anti-Arab feeling already ripe in our society.

Will Indonesia follow Iran's suit?

Richard Cowper examines Indonesia's political and religious similarities with Iran.

JAKARTA: A 32-year-old Indonesian is on trial in Jakarta charged with attempting to overthrow the Indonesian Government in an Iranian style revolution.

Imron Bin Muhammad Zein clearly never posed any serious military threat to the 16-year-old government of President Suharto.

But the fanfare surrounding the trial illustrates the point that Indonesia's army leaders see orthodox Islam as the only serious opposition political force in Indonesia today.

Sprawled across the main trading route between Japan and the Middle East, Indonesia is one of the world's leading exporters of rubber, palm oil, tin and timber. And, like the Shah, President Suharto has always laid great stress on modernisation and economic development.

Some of the circumstances which helped to topple the Shah would appear to exist in Indonesia today.

A broad Islamic political alliance forms the only real opposition to the Suharto government, and a number of its leading figures regard the new order regime as authoritarian and corrupt.

In private, some of them have been quick to denounce high-cost, low employment projects like the \$2.5 billion Krakatau steelworks and the \$2 billion Asahan aluminium complex which, they say, are grandiose schemes unsuited to a nation which has to feed 3 million new people and provide 2 million new jobs a year.

Many areas in Indonesia are undergoing a process of rapid social change, which is putting pre-

iceable strains on traditional values and ways of life.

A rapidly-growing urban population (Jakarta now has almost seven million inhabitants) has already begun to give rise to a worrying increase in urban crime rates, and sociologists point with concern to the wave of pitched battles between secondary school pupils in the capital over the past 18 months.

In some areas of Indonesia, there is a powerful tradition of revolutionary Islam. The Achinese in the northernmost province of Sumatra waged a 100 year war against the Dutch East Indies Government, and after independence fought a number of campaigns, inspired by their desire for an Islamic state, against the Jakarta authorities.

The Bugis in southern Celebes, and the Sundanese, in West Java, also fought armed campaigns against the central government in the 1950s.

But here the similarities with Iran end.

Indonesia today does not have a Khomeini waiting his chance to take over; nor does it seem likely that the country's masses will rise up to depose President Suharto in a holy war against modernisation.

Indonesia may have the world's largest Muslim population, but about 80 per cent are Muslims in name only. These people hold a wide mix of beliefs, ranging from animism to Hinduism and modern secularism, which makes Indonesia one of the world's most tolerant and least orthodox Islamic nations.

For the vast majority of Indonesians, the idea of a truly Isl-

amic state would be anathema.

Despite the history of Islamic revolt in Aceh, South Sulawesi (Celebes) and West Java, these movements have never attracted widespread national support.

And, as the break-up of Imron's small band of about 150 followers shows, the security forces have generally been successful in infiltrating and reducing the effectiveness of those small groups of Muslim extremists which do exist.

In Indonesia, orthodox Islam is a minority religion, accounting for perhaps 20 per cent of the country's population. But even these adherents remain fragmented and divided, not only on doctrinal grounds but also ethnically and geographically.

Unlike Iran, Indonesia's Muslims are Sunni rather than Shi'a and the Indonesian variant does not have the Ayatollah system which proved such a powerful means of building up leading opposition figures in Iran. There is no outstanding leader or institution that can claim the loyalty of Indonesia's orthodox Muslim community and speak authoritatively on its behalf.

In Indonesia, parliament is powerless and democracy little more than a useful charade, but nevertheless President Suharto's government, unlike that of the former Shah of Iran, does respond to criticism and seems aware of the social, political and economic forces in the country.

President Suharto has worked hard to give an impression of consulting the country's religious dignitaries, and has been careful to back down on the rare occasions when an issue threatened to unite

the Islamic community against him.

Aware of the charges that the country's modernisation plans have often benefited only a small elite, the government has recently made great play in the country's third five-year economic plan of a new emphasis on distributing the fruits of development more equitably.

At the same time, the new order has done its best to ensure that Muslim politicians are given little chance of uniting the country's 30 million orthodox Muslims against the government.

Since the brief alliance between the army and Islam after the abortive coup of 1965 (when the two groups combined to massacre as many as 550,000 Indonesians suspected of belonging to or supporting the communist party) the government has worked hard to keep orthodox Islam weak and divided.

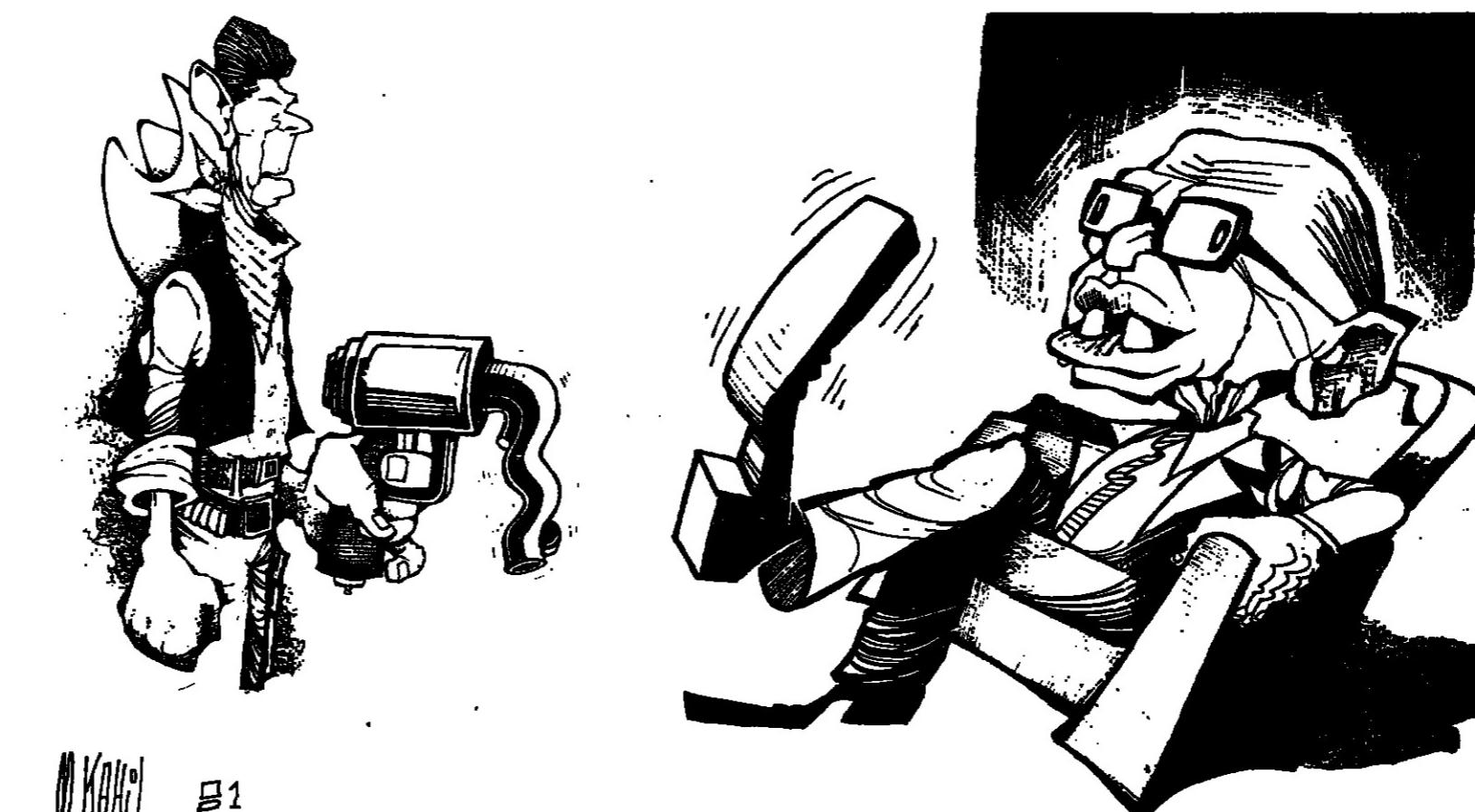
The government does not allow political parties to organise or engage in political activities at village level except during an election.

The Imron trial may conjure up some of the regime's innermost fears, but it is also designed to illustrate to potential Muslim dissidents the folly of opposing the government in a campaign of armed violence.

With less than four months to go until the country-wide general election for parliament, some Indonesian government leaders may also hope that it will prove a useful vote-winner for the government-backed Golkar Party.

--Financial Times news feature

ARAB NEWS - JEDDAH



Fall in Saudi oil output not enough to ease pressure on prices, demand

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia's oil output slipped in February to average just over seven million barrels daily from 7.9 million in January, but the fall was not enough to tighten the world market and ease pressure on prices, oil industry sources said Sunday.

The sources said that despite OPEC pleas for a drastic cut, the Saudis had apparently not changed an official output ceiling of 8.5 million barrels daily. But their customers were shipping lower volumes as the persistent glut made it impossible to dispose of all their entitlements except at a loss.

Low demand and over-supply forced February price reductions, by Iran, Egypt and Mexico. Oil companies want Britain to reduce North Sea quotes this week which would add to pressure on OPEC.

Members of OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) consulted together, trying to coordinate policies in hope of arranging a crisis meeting in mid-March.

OPEC sources said OPEC Secretary-General Marc Nguema

of Gabon met the group's current president, United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba, in Abu Dhabi late last week.

These sources also said output levels in Saudi Arabia, by far biggest exporter, had become a sensitive issue and a high oil ministry official had ordered leaks of data to stop.

The Saudis are being pressed by other OPEC members to make a drastic, formal production cut — Libya has said they should trim to only four million barrels daily — to defend OPEC prices currently aligned on \$34 for a barrel of the benchmark Saudi Arabian light crude.

Only the Saudis have the financial strength to take an appreciable volume off the market and Western energy officials are

saying they would not be surprised if Saudi Arabia did slash output soon, possibly to five million barrels daily. But some market analysts question whether even that would suffice.

Refiners say that, in the current sagging market for petrol, industrial fuel and heating oil, they are losing money processing most crudes at current crude prices. As long as there is any over-supply of crude, they will persist in trying to exact price reductions from exporters.

Yet other market experts speculate that the Saudis are willing for prices to crash four dollars or more to any level the market dictates, reasoning that this will help the United States out of recession and make alternatives like coal less competitive, thereby eventually reviving demand for OPEC oil.

Gulf sources said Kuwait was in the most critical position among Gulf exporters with output down from its official ceiling of 1.25 million, and major contracts expiring in March.

Companies want Britain to cut

by three or four dollars from around \$35 a barrel. High-quality North Sea crude traditionally commanded a premium over the benchmark, and a British cut would put intolerable pressure on OPEC exports of quality grades — Algeria, Libya and Nigeria.

All three have already suffered by buyer defections. Oil Minister Humberto Calderon Berti of Venezuela has said Algeria is producing only 500,000 barrels daily, Libya 800,000 and Nigeria 1.3 million.

According to the Petroleum Intelligence Weekly (PIW), a New York oil newsletter, Algeria and Libya both need to produce more than one million barrels daily, and Nigeria more than two million, to balance current accounts.

Gulf sources said Kuwait was in the most critical position among Gulf exporters with output down from its official ceiling of 1.25 million, and major contracts expiring in March.

Malaysian P.M. eyes stronger ties with Gulf states

MANAMA (A.P.) — Malaysia's visiting Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad predicted Sunday an influx of capital investments into the Asian Muslim country from the Gulf region, an area which he said could simultaneously serve as a transit station for Malaysian exports to Western Europe.

Mr. Mohamad, in an address to the Bahrain Chamber of Trade and Industry, said the Gulf area was an important financial and economic centre.

He expressed confidence that there will be a considerable boost in Malaysia's commercial and industrial exchange with countries of the region. The Malaysian prime minister arrived Saturday on the first leg of a four-nation Gulf tour, his first trip outside Southeast Asia since assuming office last July.

He has conferred with Bahrain ruler Sheikh Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa and top cabinet ministers. Mr. Mohamad is scheduled to go next to the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Kuwait awaits Arab signal to withdraw foreign investments

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Kuwait's Finance Minister said Sunday his country's multi-billion dollar investments abroad are being dispersed in such a way as to minimise damage in a future dispute with any individual state.

"Our investments are under constant scrutiny in an effort to evade any risks," veteran Kuwaiti and international financier Abdul Latif Al Hamad said. "They are safe because they are not concentrated in any one state or any one sector."

Kuwait is believed to maintain in excess of \$60 billion abroad in the form of bank deposits, equity shares, government securities and real estate.

The Kuwaitis' latest and largest single investment was the recent \$2.5 billion purchase of the U.S. Santa Fe Company. They are currently in negotiation with Gulf oil to acquire some of Gulf's European refineries.

Al Hamad said Kuwait's investments in the international mar-

ket were safe because these are governed by well-known and stable international laws and traditions."

He said Kuwait and the Arab group were seeking to influence the bank's policy with a view to securing more loans for Arab, Islamic and developing countries in general and to give the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) an observer status at the bank's meetings.

Al Hamad, who was speaking in an interview with the Kuwait newspaper Al Ra'i Al Aam, said Kuwait would "take the lead in withdrawing funds" from U.S. and European banks "if there were a unanimous Arab decision on this."

Such a step has been advocated

recently by the Arab Chambers of Commerce federation as punishment for what the Arabs consider U.S.-European support to Israel's强硬 Middle East policies.

Al Hamad urged conclusion of more "mutual investment insurance" pacts on the lines which Kuwait concluded with France last month. He described the Kuwait-France agreement as "a phenomenon promoting investment opportunities and a better spread of risks."

Al Hamad, who is a member of the World Bank board of directors, said the bank "despite restrictions inherent in any international institution," was the best organisation in the world currently working in the field of economic development."

Republicans, Democrats oppose Reagan budget

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's budget unveiled less than a month ago is all but dead in Congress, but members of both parties are in a dilemma over what to propose in its place.

Mr. Reagan's fellow Republicans have joined opposition Democrats in attacking the \$75.6 billion spending plan for the 1983 financial year as unrealistic.

Both sides agree the projected \$91.5 billion deficit is too big, especially for a period when the United States is supposed to be recovering from a deep recession.

Critics say the defence spending figure of \$221 billion is also too high and a proposed \$56 billion in spending cuts and tax revisions unacceptable because that would affect social programmes already sharply trimmed last year.

Compounding the budget credibility problem is a new estimate by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) that the deficit will be \$29 billion higher than Mr. Reagan forecasts even if all the cuts he wants are approved.

Of the many congressional alternatives to the Reagan budget proposed so far, none has won widespread acceptance.

After consideration by House of Representatives and Senate Budget Committees, Congress is scheduled to approve a budget plan in May for financial 1983, which starts on October 1 of this calendar year.

In the next few months the Budget Committees will work and vote on alternative budget packages, seeking some kind of consensus on spending and tax priorities. A meeting of minds has not yet happened and seems unlikely to occur soon.

About the only agreement so far is that Congress will have to raise the statutory ceiling on the federal debt limit, probably in early May.

Without an increase in the present ceiling of \$1,079 billion, the government would be unable to borrow and would grind to a halt.

The pressure will be on Congress to take steps to reduce future deficits and thereby help keep down the debt.

Raising the debt ceiling would require passage of a bill, but members traditionally dislike voting for such a measure because opponents then tend to brand them as big spenders.

Republican leaders are telling reporters it would be easier to pass a bill raising the ceiling if the measure were attached to a sensible budget plan, presumably with a smaller deficit.

Argentine TV: Gov't moving into financial future, but fight lies ahead

By Jane Klima
Reuter

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's highly-paid television stars have added their voices to a so far muffled public debate on the military government's new austerity programme.

President Leopoldo Galtieri and his two-month-old administration have decided not only to cut but to be seen to cut public spending and have decreed wage ceilings for those appearing on state-controlled television.

The celebrities, protagonists of tear-jerking, second-rate soap operas, recycled situation comedies and bawdy chat-shows, have categorically rejected the measures which would reduce some salaries from \$40,000 to just over \$3,000 a month.

The cost of living rose 11.9 per cent last month alone.

Many of the country's 30 or so national and regional channels, according to interviews with channel executives in Argentine newspapers and magazines, are struggling financially and the government has said it will put three of the four metropolitan companies up for private tender this year.

The much-publicised reductions are in line with other economy ministry measures which have frozen old age pensions and state employees' wages indefinitely.

In Argentina, where inflation is more than 140 percent, an old age pensioner receives about 1.5 mil-

lion pesos (\$150) per month and an average worker in the post office, which is also state-run, earns about 2.5 million pesos (\$250) monthly.

The advent of colour television in 1978 sounded the death knell of much of state-run television, as the treasury paid the bill adding to a growing public debt during the country's worst-ever recession.

Matters were made worse by falling advertising revenue as Argentine industry fell into decline. At the end of last year it was working at 50 percent of capacity.

Headlines have spotlighted the case of former actress Mirtha Legrand, who now hosts a lunch-time chat show on the totally state-owned ATC channel, which will not be sold off.

Miss Legrand, who interviews academics and personalities from the worlds of entertainment and sport, recently signed a contract worth \$40,000-a-month with ATC for a new series entitled Lunching with Mirtha.

The new restrictions reduce her salary to a maximum of 32 million

pesos (\$3,200) a month.

The president and vice-president of ATC, two high-ranking military officers, resigned over the cuts. They have been replaced by a colonel and a civilian, who immediately pledged support for the new measures.

National newspapers this month entered the controversy saying the authorities should have looked into company executives' perks, expense accounts and cost-effectiveness.

The outspoken English-language daily, Buenos Aires Herald, called the salary cuts an "exercise in image-dusting" by the military. The exercise would probably cost the state more than it saved, it said in an editorial.

The Herald said the stars earned the networks a great deal of money in advertising revenue and deserved a share.

The companies were losing money "because, as government fees, they have been unable to prevent themselves acquiring expensive, status-enhancing facilities, lots of sophisticated equipment, hundreds of superfluous bureaucrats enjoying endless

perks, and operating as though efficiency were a vulgar superstition," it added.

Three years ago, the government built massive new studios for ATC, which has always been state-owned, on some of the most expensive land in central Buenos Aires.

A survey by the weekly magazine Para Ti this month found that ATC has 33 managers, whereas the other channels had an average of five. The managers were paid between \$3,500 and 25,000 monthly and every ATC secretary was paid \$1,300 a month, it said.

Para Ti said its reporters had been refused interviews with ATC company executives. An ATC spokesman had also refused to comment when asked by telephone about reports that only 50 of the 2,500 staff at ATC were actually involved in producing programmes and that managers had been cut to two and two chauffeurs at their disposal, it added.

Channel administrators and government officials have made no comment on the debate.

The scope of the criticism has, however, broadened to embrace

the quality of programmes and news bulletins.

The Buenos Aires daily, Clarin, said in an editorial: "Except for rare exceptions, which have been highly praised, television production demonstrates a very low level of quality, resorts to commonplaces, and distances itself from the reality around it, constructing stereotyped and artificial images."

Locally-produced soap operas, threatened by more professionally-produced series from Mexico, Brazil, North America and Western Europe, have been chopped after their stars refuse to accept the new salaries.

Clarín singled out what it called "the poverty of the information and the partiality of the opinions" in news programmes on Argentine television, which makes great play of international terrorist attacks, failing political systems and economies and Argentina's image abroad.

The best-known newscasters are often former actresses or models and in the word of one television critic, the priority is to entertain first and then inform.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal	101.1/101.6
Lebanese pound	70.8/71.6
Syrian pound	57.9/58.2
Iraqi dinar	650.0/658.7
Kuwaiti dinar	1213.3/1216.2
Egyptian pound	344.2/347.5
Qatari riyal	94.9/95.4
UAE dirham	94.2/94.6
Omani riyal	999.8/1000
U.S. dollar	347.3/49
U.K. sterling	632.9/639.1
W. German mark	144.1/145
Swiss franc	131.8/182.9
French franc	56.8/57.1
Italian lire	(for every 100) 26.9/27.1
Japanese yen	(for every 100) 145/145.9
Dutch guilder	132.7/132.8
Belgian franc	78.7/79.2
Swedish crown	59.5/59.9

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr	4:41
Sunrise	6:13
Dhuhr	11:49
Asr	3:05
Maghreb	5:34
Isha	6:56

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	75111
Civil Defence rescue	61111
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	71125-6-7-8
Police headquarters	39141
Nejdah roving patrol rescue police (English spoken)	21111, 37777
24 hours a day for emergency services	92205/92206
Airport information (ALIA)	73111
Jordan Television	74111
Radio Jordan	
Information	
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls	10
Oversize radio and satellite calls	17
Telephone maintenance and repair service	11
Telephones	
Local Potatoes	150 100
Broad Beans	250 200
Apples (Golden)	280 220
Apples (Double Red)	280 220
Apples (Stark)	280 220
Lemons	110 90
Oranges (Shamouti)	220 120
Oranges (local)	120 80
Oranges (Valencia)	110 90
Cauliflowers (white)	140 100
Bombai	220 180

SPORTS

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES. UNRWA STAFF'S SPONSORED RUN

UNRWA thanks His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for his patronage of its staff's Sponsored Run, which took place on 30 September 1981 at the Amman Training Centre; and for his generous donation.

Eighty-one runners participated, of whom 12 were disabled persons; and more than 2,300 individuals, firms and organisations contributed financially. The total sum raised amounted to JD 11,280.171.

Refugees, especially young refugees, in Jordan will benefit from these contributions. Summer camps for refugee orphaned boys and girls will be organised in the summer, and other projects are being selected, particularly any involving disabled children.

The SI runners wish to express their appreciation to all sponsors and contributors.

The following sponsors and contributors donated amounts in excess of JD 100.

- Al-Nas Company
- Al-Waha Commercial Company
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- Hud-hud Shand Company
- Ismail Belbeis and Company
- Jordanian Building Material Co.
- Jordanian Islamic Bank
- Jordan Press Foundation Al Ra'i - Jordan Times
- Malha, Mahmoud Zubdi
- Office of the Union of Garage Owners Company
- Othman, Ahmad Dawoud
- Otar, Yacoub Jamil
- Sabbagh, M.
- Shar'sha, Ziad Jawdat
- Abu Said, Haifa
- Abu Said, Omar Mohd. Issa
- Abu Soboh, Mahmud
- Agha Hind
- Ahmad Al-Abed and Sons
- Al-A'adi, Mrs. Ahmad
- Alastair Eadie
- Al-Abed, Ibrahim
- Al-Adham, Sefi
- Al-Ahly Exchange Company
- Al-Anani, Said Mohammad
- Al-Bashir, Dr. Abdullah
- Al-Bashir, Walid
- Al-Dabbagh, Haj Mahmoud
- Al-Dado, Haj Adel
- Al-Dado, Saleh Adel
- Al-Dajani, Lila
- Al-Dajani, Om Al-Wafa
- Al-Dawoud, Dawoud
- Al-Dawoud, Jamal
- Al-Dawoud, Mahmud
- Al-Dawoud, Mohd. A/Razak
- Jayousi, Bahjat
- Jayousi, Hikmat
- Jayousi Huda
- Jordan Pipes Industrial Co.
- Jordan Super Market
- Joudieh, Farouq
- Kaddoura, N.
- Kamal, Dr. Awai
- Karzoun, Karam Izzat
- Kasir, Antoine
- Keilan, Ahmad
- Kheir, Said
- Kombian, Arvin
- Ku'war, Ranya
- Lebanon Grocery
- Levant Express Services
- Lufti, Lamis
- Maisalooh Company
- Mansa', Omar
- Mari', Al/Latif
- Mansour, Sam'an
- Masbach, Filmi
- Mash'al, Daoud
- M. Sabagh Company
- Medical Factory Company
- Modern Clearance Company
- Murad Trading Establishment
- Nahawi, Baha
- Nahawi, Hanis
- Nahawi, Zafir
- Nassar, Khader
- Naser, M.
- Naser, Salim
- Nayef
- Nicola Habash and Company
- Nuseibeh, Izzat
- Pearson, Peter
- Pester, A.W.
- Piccadilly Super Market
- Prevost, Robert
- Qamaz, Haddah & Abu Sitta
- Qattan, Saleh Mohd.
- Qula Ghazi Company
- Ramadan, Mohd. Ali
- Riziq, Saliba
- Rydebeck, Mrs. Olof
- Sa'af, F.J.
- Sado, Al/Hamid
- Saleh, A/Latif
- Saleh, Halim
- Sanjuqieh, Fakhri
- Sanjuqieh, Ibrahim
- Sedan, Aman
- Shabani, Ahmad Lutfi
- Shabani, Jamil
- Shabani, Mohd. Lutfi
- Shabani, Suliman
- Shabani, Younes
- Shukri, Anwer
- Skinner, R.E.
- Snobar, Naim
- Sultan, Ibrahim
- Spoul, Marn
- Tadrus, Mashour
- Tannous, Faud
- Tannous, George
- Taleb
- Taqatq, Mohb.
- Taslik, Adnan
- Teachers of ANC G/School No. 2
- Teachers of Asbraish Girls School No. 2
- Teachers of Jabal Taj Elem. School
- Teachers of Jabal Taj Prep. School
- Tebeshat, Mansour Falah
- Technical Plastic Industry Company
- The Middle East Clearance Co.
- Tubileh, Bahich
- Twal, Chehadeh
- Wahdan Trade & Construction Establishment
- Jordan and Ajma Company
- Yousef, Ahmad
- Zateemeh, Ahmad
- Zateemeh, Majid
- Zateemeh, Nabil

The very many sponsors and contributors who donated less than JD 10 are also sincerely thanked.

Soviets consider major reduction in size of senior soccer league

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union is considering a major reduction in the size of its senior soccer league in a bid to reduce 'hooliganism' on the pitch and stamp out illicit payments to players.

The newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya (Soviet Russia) said Sunday that the proposal came during a recent national convention of soccer managers and administrators in the southern city of Krasnodar.

It said the recent success of the national team, which has qualified for the World Cup finals in Spain this year, had been accompanied by a decline in moral standards in

Soviet football which could not be tolerated.

Last season 153 senior-league players were sent off and 1,500 booked for offences including dangerous play, insulting behaviour and physical assault on opponents and referees. In the 18-club first division alone, 26 were given marching orders and 353 booked.

Many of the 198 senior clubs were offering expensive gifts and unofficial financial incentives, the newspaper said, adding: "For what services? What is the source of this money?"

Former Algerian trainer recalled for World Cup

ALGIERS, Algeria (A.P.) — Rachid Mekhloufi, the popular veteran coach of Algeria's national soccer team, is being recalled for training his country's squad for the finals of the World Cup in Spain, the official daily El Moudjahid reported Sunday.

The paper's front page article said another former coach, Mahieddine Khaled, was also called to help train the national team for the World Cup.

The article quoted "authoritative circles" and said an official announcement would be made later.

Mekhloufi led the Algerian national team from 1975 until he was replaced by Khaled in 1980, following Algeria's elimination from the Olympic soccer tournament in that year.

Thomas Hearns stops Marcus Geraldo in round 1

LAS VEGAS (R) — American Thomas Hearns, former World Boxing Association welterweight champion, stopped Marcus Geraldino of Mexico in the first round of their scheduled 10-round light-middleweight bout here Saturday night. The fight lasted only one minute 48 seconds.

Tennis players having more money thrust their way in '82

NEW YORK (R) — Few people can be weathering the world economic recession with as little hardship as the leading men tennis players.

ampionships in Philadelphia and WCT put on the Gold Coast Classic in Delray Beach. One player's reaction was typical—"what can be wrong with tennis when we have two \$300,000 tournaments the same week."

The game's star performers, used to being handsomely rewarded, are having even more money thrust their way in 1982.

The start of this year marked the end of an uneasy peace between the Grand Prix circuit, which has the backing of the International Tennis Federation (ITF), the game's traditional governing body, and World Championship Tennis (WCT), run by the astute and wealthy Dallas businessman Lamar Hunt.

"We feel we had one of the best indoor tournaments ever staged," said Marilyn Fernberger, the Philadelphia tournament director. "Basically Lendl and Jose Luis Clerc are clay-court players and we didn't expect to get them away."

The first clash of dates came at the end of last month when the Grand Prix staged the U.S. Indoor Professional Tennis Cha-

American Kurt Cox wins Hong Kong Golf Open

HONG KONG (A.P.) — American Kurt Cox won the \$130,000 Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Open golf tournament after a three-way sudden-death playoff Sunday.

The 33-year-old Texan clinched the title on the fourth extra hole after fellow-American Tom Sieckman missed a five-foot putt.

Cox, who has been a professional for eight years, received the first prize money of \$21,650.

The playoff climaxed one of the most exciting finishes seen at the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club.

Cox, who needed a birdie, could have sealed the title on the 18th hole after Sieckman and Australian Terry Gale collected pars. But he hit slightly wide of the green for a four-under par 276.

Cox collected two birdies and two bogeys on his way to victory.

The Texan said the win was a morale-booster and he hoped to do well on the rest of the Asian circuit.

He said the standard of the competitors this year improved, adding he felt pressure from his main rival, Sieckman.

The 27-year-old Sieckman

Lendl wins WCT Genoa tennis

GENOA, Italy (A.P.) — Top-seeded Ivan Lendl's blistering forehand wore out second-seeded American Vitas Gerulaitis Sunday as the Czech won the final of the annual World Championship Tennis (WCT) Bitti Bergamo Memorial tennis tournament.

Lendl triumphed 6-7, 7-3, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 to pocket first prize money of \$100,000. Gerulaitis won \$32,000 in the \$300,000 competition.

The final was a replay of the Masters final in New York last month, also won by Lendl.

Peter Mueller wins World Cup downhill

WHISTLER, British Columbia (R) — A little extra preparation went a long way for Switzerland's Peter Mueller as he won the World Cup downhill skiing event at Whistler mountain Saturday by more than a second.

The 24-year-old Mueller, who spent an additional hour on the flat sections on the course in practice, won the eighth World Cup downhill of the season by covering the 3,795-metre course in two minutes 14.33 seconds.

Canadians Steve Podborski and Dave Irwin finished second and third respectively. Podborski was timed in 2:15.53 and Irwin in 2:15.73.

Mueller, the 1979 and 1980 World Cup downhill champion, is acknowledged as one of the best gliders among the downhills and he put his advantage to work here. It was his first win of the season after he broke his leg in September.

It remains to be seen how long the rivalry will last—and there can be no mistaking that this is a real contest which both sides are very anxious to win.

Owen Williams, the WCT executive director, said at the end of last year that the ultimate prize was control of the game while Philippe Charlier, the ITF president, has denounced in the strongest terms Hunt's efforts to take over the game.

It was as a result of the rivalry that the ITF found themselves at odds with Sweden's Bjorn Borg.

The decision to get players to commit themselves to 10 Grand Prix tournaments was designed to maintain the quality of the circuit in the face of competition from WCT. When Borg failed to make such a commitment, he was told he must qualify for all Grand Prix tournaments, including Wimbledon and the French and U.S. Opens.

"It is both sad and ironical to find ourselves quarrelling with our greatest champion," said Charlier in the ITF's February newsletter.

But for the others, Borg's absence from the prize-money trail is just one more reason for thinking 1982 could be a very good year despite the recession.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

1981 by Chicago Tribune

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♦ KJ
♥ ♦ Q954
♦ AKQ93
♦ K10

WEST **EAST**
♦ 9754 ♦ A1032
♦ A8 ♦ K63
♦ 10862 ♦ 7
♦ Q76 ♦ 98532

SOUTH

♦ Q85
♥ J1072
♦ J54
♦ AJ4

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
4 ♡ Pass 4 ♡ Pass
Opening lead: Six of ♣.

For both declarer and the defenders, the time to study the hand and prepare your campaign is before you follow to the first trick. You never know how soon the moment of truth might arrive! On today's hand, East was alert and ready.

Despite the fact that he had a balanced hand and a weak suit, we approve of South's decision to respond one heart rather than one no trump. Experience shows that four of a major suit is usually a more desirable contract than three no trump, and to bypass the heart suit

could result in a 4-4 fit in that suit going by the boards. Having said that, let us hasten to add that on this particular hand three no-trump would have been a superior contract. But no blame attaches to North for his jump to game.

In an effort to build tricks, West elected to lead from his club honor rather than from nothing in spades. East took time to analyze the position. Since it was most unlikely that his partner was leading away from the ace against a suit contract, the hand became virtually an open book.

Dummy was an ominous sight. There were no tricks to be had in the minor suits, and at most one in spades. If the contract were going to be defeated, the tricks would have to come from the trump suit. Having worked that out, East was prepared.

Dummy's ten of clubs won the first trick, and declarer led a trump. East rushed with the king of trumps!

When that won, the rest of the defense was easy. East returned a diamond. Declarer won and continued trumps. West won the ace and gave his partner a diamond ruff for a one-trick set.

Didn't East take a wild risk by rising with a king of trumps? Not really. If South held the ace of hearts, or if West held the singleton ace, all the play could cost was an overtrick or two—a small price for a chance to defeat a game contract.

Chris Evert Lloyd reaches Avon tennis tourney final

OAKLAND (A.P.) — Chris Evert Lloyd, playing in her first tennis tournament of the year, reached the finals of the \$150,000 Avon Championships of California by beating Sylvia Hanika 6-4, 6-1 Saturday night.

Pakistani cricket in crisis

LAHORE, Pakistan (A.P.) — The general body of the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP) unanimously decided Sunday not to accept the demand of ten top cricket test players who refused to play under the test captaincy of Javed Miandad.

Air Marshal Nur Khan president of the BCCP announced the decision during a news conference after the meeting.

Javed Miandad was the captain of the Pakistan cricket team during their tour of Australia last month. "Javed Miandad will continue as captain in the series against Sri Lanka and on the summer tour to England as announced last week," the air marshal said.

The BCCP president said out of ten "rebel" test players, four of them—Wasim Hasan Raja, Mohsin Hasan Khan, opener Mudassar Nazar and spin bowler Iqbal Qasim have expressed their desires to return to the game.

Khan said if the rest of the players did not return to camp by March 2, action will be taken against them. He did not elaborate.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Centrally-heated apartment (2nd floor), consisting of 4 bedrooms, receptions, dining-room, living-room, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, 3 balconies, telephone and garage.

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Managing Director
M. Zahra

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A three-bedroom unfurnished apartment with laundry and servant rooms, 300 square metres, first floor, central heating.

Location: Suweileh (off 5th Circle towards Orthodox Club), under Dunlop offices.

For

WORLD

OAU wraps up conference, blasts U.S. over S. Africa

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (Agencies) — The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) accused the United States Sunday of encouraging South Africa to stall on changing its race segregation policies and giving independence to Namibia (Southwest Africa).

The charge was contained in resolutions on South Africa and Namibia passed at the end of a rancorous week-long foreign ministers' meeting highlighted by a dispute over the surprise admission of the Polisario Front as the organisation's 51st member.

Nineteen member states boycotted the final session, which approved the resolutions, as part of a Moroccan-led protest over the seating of the guerrilla group as the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) when the meeting opened Monday.

"The continuing political, economic and military collaboration of certain Western countries, particularly the United States, with the racist regime of South Africa, has served to encourage its persistent intransigence and defiance of the international community," the OAU said.

The organisation also singled out Britain and Israel as collaborators with South Africa and said "comprehensive and mandatory" economic sanctions would be the most effective way of helping South Africa's 20 million blacks achieve majority rule.

Moscow assails Reagan's 'war budget'

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet army newspaper on Sunday accused U.S. President Ronald Reagan of proposing a "war budget" designed to strengthen its hand in "confrontation with the Soviet Union."

Though not citing the United States by name, the resolution on Namibia accused "certain Western countries" of obstructing efforts for a negotiated independence settlement in the mineral-rich territory.

Black African leaders have periodically accused the Reagan administration of being sympathetic to white-ruled South Africa because of its anti-Communist stance while tending ignore its policies of apartheid, or racial separation.

They have also frequently charged that the United States and other members of the so-called Western "Contact Group" — involved in the quest for a Namibian settlement have tried to alter a United Nations plan for Namibian independence to appease the white minority in the territory.

Besides the United States, the members of the contact group are Britain, France, West Germany and Canada.

The Addis Ababa meeting was intended to be a routine budgetary session but became one of the

most divisive since the OAU was formed here in 1963 because of the admission of the Polisario Front.

Polisario guerrillas have been fighting Morocco for six years for independence of the Western Sahara, which Morocco has annexed in stages since Spain withdrew in 1976.

Abdelhaq Tazi, number two man in the Moroccan foreign ministry, angrily told reporters as the walkout-declared gathering read its end at Morocco considered Sunday's session "absolutely illegal" and its work "null and void."

The two delegations were in the conference hall for the opening of the final plenary session and their presence was enough to make the talks quorate. OAU officials explained.

The chairman of the talks, Botswana's Foreign Minister Archie Mogwe, said in a closing address that the walkouts were a "matter for deep regret."

Algerians force down U.S. plane

PARIS (R) — Algerian air force planes forced an American civil aircraft to land at Algiers airport Saturday after it violated Algerian airspace, the official Algerian news agency APS said.

In a dispatch monitored in Paris, APS said the Grumman aircraft owned by a private company was intercepted after it entered Algerian airspace without authorisation. The agency did not name the company.

The pilot was questioned and then allowed to take off after being sanctioned, APS said.

Investigators found that claims by the pilot to be carrying an "official person" were untrue, the agency said. It gave no further details of the incident, nor further identification of the aircraft.

Peking leaders sweep roads

PEKING (R) — Chinese leaders including Communist Party Chairman Hu Yaobang swept paths and loaded carts Sunday as their contribution to a national drive to improve the environment and promote courtesy.

The New China News Agency said Mr. Hu, together with three vice-premiers and four other senior officials, arrived at eight o'clock Sunday morning in a mini-bus to sweep paths in Beihai Park in central Peking.

Mr. Hu also helped some young people carry glazed tiles and then hurried to rejoin his colleagues who were then several metres ahead, it added.

The chairman and Gen. Yang Dezhi, chief of general staff of the People's Liberation Army, next helped load a small cart while Vice-Premier Yao Yiliang and others helped remove some rubbish.

Manual labour for senior officials was obligatory under Chairman Mao Tsetung. He believed that if they did not take part in such work they would lose contact with the masses.

This practice, quietly abandoned after Chairman Mao's death in 1976, was recently revived apparently as a gesture to army leftists disturbed at the way in which the former demigod's policies are being repudiated.

"Socialist ethics month," which officially begins Monday, is intended to promote politeness and decorum, traits which many young people lack as a result of the cultural revolution of 1966-76 when they were told courtesy was a bourgeois habit.

China's present leaders are worried about widespread rudeness, especially among young shop assistants who tend to snarl at customers and do as little as possible to help them.

As on previous occasions, Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping, who recently reappeared after a five-week absence from public view, did not take part in Sunday's activities.

Dumiso Dabengwa, once the senior commander of ZIPRA, the former military wing of ZAPU

which fought beside Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's ZANLA forces in a seven-year war against white rule in the country, told reporters he was "completely perplexed."

Mr. Nkomo said he was "very much responsible" for the decision and at the meeting had urged the party to retain its presence in government.

He stressed that he was working for national order.

"It is important we don't allow the young people to fight each other," he said.

"Humiliating ZAPU is one thing. Killing Zimbabwe is another," he said.

On Feb. 17, Mr. Mugabe dismissed Mr. Nkomo and two other ZAPU ministers from the coalition which had invited them to join at independence 22 months ago. He accused them of plotting a coup and said vast amounts of weapons had been found on property connected with ZAPU.

China ignores anniversary of Sino-U.S. communique

PEKING (R) — China Sunday ignored the 10th anniversary of the signing of the landmark Shanghai communique under which Peking and Washington agreed to resume informal relations broken off after the Communist victory in 1949.

Reflecting tension that has arisen since President Reagan's decision last month to sell fighter aircraft to Taiwan, the official Chinese press maintained a complete silence on the anniversary. In a happier political climate it would almost certainly have been marked by statements praising Sino-American friendship.

Both sides have refrained from commenting on the strained state of Sino-American relations since U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Holdridge came to Peking to explain Mr. Reagan's decision to Chinese leaders.

Mr. Holdridge's visit apparently resulted in the two sides merely agreeing to hold further talks on the sale of the aircraft, which Peking regards as interference in its internal affairs.

Deputy Foreign Minister Zhong Xidong said on Feb. 5 that Sino-American relations had reached crisis point and that China had practically no room for manoeuvre.

ZAPU to retain presence in no-coalition government

BULAWAYO (R) — The ZAPU party of veteran Zimbabwe nationalist Joshua Nkomo has decided to stay in government despite the dismissal of its leaders from the coalition cabinet but Mr. Nkomo said Sunday he regarded the coalition as dead.

"A coalition is a coalition when its leaders are there. When you have no leaders it is just a working arrangement," he told reporters.

"We are not a coalition party. We are an opposition party as we stand now," he said, adding that ZAPU was no longer constrained by its previous collective responsibility.

Some influential ZAPU members said they were stunned by a decision of the party's central committee Saturday night to allow its three remaining cabinet representatives to remain at their posts.

Dumiso Dabengwa, once the senior commander of ZIPRA, the former military wing of ZAPU

which fought beside Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's ZANLA forces in a seven-year war against white rule in the country, told reporters he was "completely perplexed."

Mr. Nkomo said he was "very much responsible" for the decision and at the meeting had urged the party to retain its presence in government.

He stressed that he was working for national order.

"It is important we don't allow the young people to fight each other," he said.

"Humiliating ZAPU is one thing. Killing Zimbabwe is another," he said.

On Feb. 17, Mr. Mugabe dismissed Mr. Nkomo and two other ZAPU ministers from the coalition which had invited them to join at independence 22 months ago. He accused them of plotting a coup and said vast amounts of weapons had been found on property connected with ZAPU.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Prosecution to seek death penalty for Bahrain coup plotters

BAHRAYN (R) — The prosecution will seek death sentences for all 73 people arrested over an Iranian-backed coup attempt which Bahrain foiled in December, an official statement said Sunday. It said Chief Public Prosecutor Issa Bokhara this week will refer the case, which triggered a security concern among Gulf states, to the supreme court. He has charged the detainees with crimes against the state's security in cooperation with a foreign power, it added. The charges also include setting up an underground organisation and illegally possessing arms and explosives with the aim of damaging public installations and spreading terror. Bahrain ceased all dealings with Iran and signed a security pact with Saudi Arabia within days of denouncing the coup attempt on Dec. 16.

Since then Saudi Arabia has also signed security pacts with Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, and Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz said last week his country will sign a similar accord with Kuwait in the near future. The Bahrain authorities have said a group called the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain planned to kill senior civil, defence and security officials, take over public installations including radio and television, and declare an Iranian-style Islamic revolution.

Washington Post reports attempt on Qadhafi's life

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. intelligence has evidence of an attempt to kill Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi two months ago, the Washington Post said Sunday.

The newspaper quoted what it described as informed officials as saying the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had sufficient evidence to confirm press reports of an assassination attempt made by some members of the Libyan army. The plot received no support from the United States or any other country and although the Libyan leader was not seriously injured he probably was nicked in the jaw by a bullet.

Mr. Mallard said Georgia State law did not require the prosecution to show a motive for the killing.

He said that early in 1981 a newspaper article revealed that fibre evidence had been found in the clothes of the victims.

"This mad dog killer seizes upon this article, reads about the fibres and determines, well, 'I'm going to throw them in the rivers,'" Mr. Mallard said.

Police staking out the Chattoochee River bridge spotted the defendant's car on the bridge

Libyan leader returns home after Tunis talks

BEIRUT (R) — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi has returned home after a five-day reconciliation visit to neighbouring Tunisia, the official Libyan news agency JANA said Sunday. Libyan and Tunisian officials said the visit had opened a new era in relations, strained since a merger agreement came to nothing shortly after its signature in Jan. 1974.

Ulus to visit Kuwait in March

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Prime Minister of Turkey Bulent Ulusu will pay an official visit to Kuwait next month, Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Abdul Aziz Hussein said Sunday. He did not give a specific date for the visit, which is to be undertaken at the invitation of Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Sabah.

Mrs. Begin hospitalised

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Aliza Begin, Prime Minister Menachem Begin's wife, was in the Hadassah Hospital Sunday in the intensive care unit, spokesman for the prime minister said. Mrs. Begin, 61, suffers from asthma, and requires periodic hospitalisation for doctors to monitor her condition, the spokesman said. She was expected to be released in several days.

Instability is the price Ghana pays for 'holy war'

Reuter

ATLANTA, Georgia (R) — Wayne Williams has been sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering two of 28 young blacks in a 22-month period in this deep south city.

After deliberating for almost 12 hours, the jury found the 23-year-old freelance photographer and music promoter guilty. The judge said he must serve two life sentences consecutively.

Besides charging Mr. Williams with the murders of Payne and Cater, the prosecution was allowed to introduce evidence that linked him with the murders of 10 other young blacks among 28 killed over the nearly two-year period.

Before sentencing, Mr. Williams, who is also black, said: "I maintained all along through this trial my innocence and I would still do so today.... I more than anybody wants to see this terror ended."

Mr. Williams was charged with killing Nathaniel Cater, 27, and

Jimmy Ray Payne, 21. He was arrested in June 1981.

Since then, there have been no murders of young blacks which brought fear and racial tension to Atlanta.

Mr. Williams' lawyer, Alvin Binder, told reporters the defence had not yet decided whether to appeal against the verdict.

Besides charging Mr. Williams with the murders of Payne and Cater, the prosecution was allowed to introduce evidence that linked him with the murders of 10 other young blacks among 28 killed over the nearly two-year period.

Mr. Williams, who lived in a middle-class area with his parents, maintained his innocence and denied knowing any of the victims.

No-one had testified to seeing Mr. Williams, 23, kill either of his two alleged victims and the prosecution case was based on circumstantial evidence.

Police staking out the Chattoochee River bridge spotted the defendant's car on the bridge

the bodies of three soldiers and five civilians were found in Takoradi.

PNDC Information Secretary Abu Austin has appealed to soldiers not to shoot at random and PNDC Member Alojola Akata-Pore has said any soldier or policeman who molested civilians would be punished as "an enemy of the revolution."

Sources close to PNDC headquarters say soldiers also shot and killed a police woman member of the congregation as she lay in a hospital bed recovering from a slight wound received while trying to disarm the officer.

The ruling People's National Defence Council (PNDC) had proclaimed Feb. 8 a day of "thanksgiving and prayer for the revolution."

The PNDC has ordered an immediate inquiry into other shooting incidents in Kumasi, Cape Coast and Takoradi. Informed sources say that three weeks ago,

eyewitnesses said flogging of



Ft.-Lt. Jerry Rawlings, left, proclaims a 'holy war' against corruption and poverty in Ghana on Nov. 24, 1982. (A.P. wirephoto)

officers cooperated with military intelligence in a campaign to

promote better understanding of the United States in other countries." This legislation established the overseas information programmes as a long-term adjunct of American foreign policy, with the Voice of America as an integral part.

The Hoover Commission recommended that the information programme be separated from the State Department. (The Hoover Commission was set up in the administration of President Harry Truman (1945-53), and was chaired by then-former President Herbert Hoover to study the structure and efficiency of operations of the U.S. government.) President Eisenhower, who succeeded President Truman, supported the commission's recommendation and asked the Congress to establish the U.S. Information Agency, of which the VOA was a part. Congress approved, and on August 1, 1953, USIA came into being as an independent agency reporting directly to the president, but asking policy guidance from the Department of State. Since April 1978, the VOA has been a part of the International Communication Agency which replaced and carries on the activities of the former U.S. Information Agency and the Department of State's bureau of educational and cultural affairs.

Although the Voice of America has changed and grown since its beginnings, in the dark days of World War Two, it has remained the same in one respect: Telling America's story to the world. It has continued to be America's voice, broadcasting today in 39 languages, over 900 hours a week.

In an average week, around the world, more than 100 million listeners tune their radios to the Voice of America. When extraordinary events take place, such as the imposition of martial law in Poland last December, VOA's listenership increases dramatically. For example, VOA's worldwide audience of over 100 million heard the voice's adaptation of the U.S. International Communication Agency's television presentation "Let Poland be Poland" on Jan. 31, 1982.

The first U.S. government radio broadcasts overseas were beamed to Latin America, although they were not identified as the "Voice of America." The first programmes with the VOA identification were conducted under the coordinator of information, who was responsible for information programmes on the United States and its policies to all parts of the world except Latin America. A few months after VOA went on the air, the Office of War Information (OWI) was established, with the Voice of America as its radio division. After the war, the functions of OWI were placed under the Department of State.

In January 1948, Congress enacted the Smith-Mundt Act to